

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
a separator for a fuel cell comprising a metal plate including a coated gas passage portion and a non-coated contact portion, ~~the non-coated contact portion and a contact portion a part other than the gas passage portion, the contact portion~~ being located further to the side of a periphery of the metal plate than the gas passage portion, a conductive surface of the contact portion being exposed, and
a terminal of a cell voltage monitor,
wherein the exposed conductive surface of the contact portion contacts the terminal, and
wherein an anti-corrosion surface treatment on the gas passage portion includes a metal plating and a carbon coat formed on the metal plating, and an anti-corrosion surface treatment on the contact portion is the metal plating being brought into contact with the terminal of the cell voltage monitor so that contact resistance of the contact portion and the corrosion resistance of the gas passage portion are stabilized; and
wherein the anti-corrosion surface treatment applied to the contact portion comprises no carbon coat.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a frame portion, wherein an attachment portion that functions in attaching the cell voltage monitor to the fuel cell is formed in the frame portion and the metal plate.
4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the attachment portion is engaged with the cell voltage monitor so as to be attached to the fuel cell in a direction where a plurality of cells are stacked into the fuel cell.

5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the metal plate comprises a stainless steel plate applied with a conductive metal plating.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~[[2]]~~1, further comprising a frame portion, wherein an attachment portion that functions in attaching the cell voltage monitor to the fuel cell is formed in the frame portion and the metal plate.

7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the attachment portion is engaged with the cell voltage monitor so as to be attached to the fuel cell in a direction where a plurality of cells are stacked into the fuel cell.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~[[2]]~~1, wherein the metal plate comprises a stainless steel plate applied with a conductive metal plating.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the anti-corrosion surface treatment covers the entire gas-passage portion of the metal plate.

10. (Previously presented) The apparatus for a fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein a gas passage of the gas-passage portion is formed as part of the metal plate.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the contact portion includes a conductive metal plating layer formed by the anti-corrosion surface treatment and does not include a carbon coating.

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the metal plate further includes a gas manifold portion located outside the gas passage portion and proximate to a corner of the separator,
~~the contact portion is provided near the gas manifold portion~~ the cell voltage monitor and
the contact portion being located proximate to the corner of the separator,
both the anti-corrosion surface treatment applied to the gas passage portion and an anti-corrosion surface treatment applied to the gas manifold portion include the metal plating and the carbon coat formed on the metal plating, and
the terminal of the cell voltage monitor contacts the metal plating directly, by the contact portion being masked during carbon coating.
14. (New) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the contact portion is provided on an edge of the separator that extends in a longitudinal direction of a rectangular gas manifold opening.
15. (New) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein housings are alternately arranged in right and left sides in the stack direction of the fuel cell, each cell of the fuel cell having a fixture portion for attaching the cell voltage monitor.
16. (New) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the attachment portion is engaged with the cell voltage monitor so as to be attached to the fuel cell in a direction where a plurality of cells are stacked into the fuel cell.
17. (New) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein first and second grooves are formed in the frame portion and the first groove is separately formed in parallel with the second groove.
18. (New) The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the metal plate comprises a positive side metal plate and a negative side metal plate,

one of the positive side metal plate and the negative side metal plate has a groove with a position and configuration corresponding to only the first groove,

the other of the positive side metal plate and the negative side metal plate has a groove across the first and second grooves, and

the terminal of the cell voltage monitor is brought into contact with the non-coated portion of the one of the positive side metal plate and the negative side metal plate.

19. (New) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein first and second grooves are formed in the frame portion and the first groove is separately formed in parallel with the second groove.

20. (New) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the metal plate comprises a positive side metal plate and a negative side metal plate,

one of the positive side metal plate and the negative side metal plate has a groove with a position and configuration corresponding to only the first groove,

the other of the positive side metal plate and the negative side metal plate has a groove across the first and second grooves, and

the terminal of the cell voltage monitor is brought into contact with the non-coated contact portion of the one of the positive side metal plate and the negative side metal plate.